BRAILLE AUTHORITY OF NORTH AMERICA

BOARD CONFERENCE CALL

February 8, 2011

Minutes

Call to Order--Judy Dixon

BANA Chairperson Judy Dixon called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time.

The following Board Members participated in the conference call.

- Judith (Judy) Dixon, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress (NLS), Chair
- Mary Nelle McLennan, American Printing House for the Blind (APH), Vice Chair
- Jennifer Dunnam, National Federation of the Blind (NFB), Secretary
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- Bonnie Grimm, Braille Institute of America (BIA), Treasurer
- Kim Charlson, American Council of the Blind (ACB), Immediate Past Chair
- Frances Mary (FM) D'Andrea, American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)
- Cindi Laurent, National Braille Association (NBA)
- Susan (Sue) Reilly, California Transcribers and Educators of the Blind and Visually Impaired (CTEVBI),
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- Diane Wormsley, Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)

Joanna Venneri participated in her role as Administrative Assistant.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of Press Release and Membership.

Committee Reports

Crafts and Hobbies--May Davis

MSC May Davis moved that Anna Dresner be appointed to serve on the crafts and hobbies committee for a term to end in 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

Testing Committee

The testing committee will have a face-to-face meeting at CTEBVI.

Formats--Sue Reilly

The comments from the review of the Formats document are lengthy. There are many changes being proposed from current code to this new document.

Explanation is needed for the field as to why the changes are being made: 1) The board needs to know what is changed from the originally submitted document as a result of the review process; and 2) rationale is needed for all substantive changes from current code.
The explanation of changes from current to new could be handled in the re-write of the preface.

MSC Sue Reilly moved to appoint Dorothy Worthington as a full member of the Formats Committee for a term to end in 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

Tactile Graphics--Mary Nelle McLennan

On January 25, the final copy of the tactile graphics guidelines was received. There are some complications around getting the document published due to the various file types, which will take some time to resolve.

MSC Mary Nelle McLennan moved to appoint Aquinas Pather to serve as chair of the Tactile Graphics Committee for a term to end 2014. The motion passed unanimously.
Suggestions for additional committee members are welcomed.

Education and Outreach--FM D'Andrea

The committee met in December, to deal with the three part charge issued at the fall BANA meeting.
Work is ongoing on the NUBS press release and the research report.

Judy is working to bring about a contract for a cost analysis for implementation of a major code change.
The first part of the article on the evolution of braille is mostly complete except for a final edit. It will be distributed widely. Work is ongoing on the second part of the article on the evolution of braille.
BANA will do presentations on the evolution of braille at CTEBVI in March and at NBA in April.
We now have a trunk equivalent, in the form of a case. It will be transported to CTEBVI and will remain in California so that it can also be used at NBA.
Kim and Jennifer are working to get slots for presentations about code changes on the agendas of the national conventions of the consumer organizations.

Braille Research--Diane Wormsley and FM D'Andrea

The NUBS research report is in the final stages of revision.

Other Committees

Corrections from the review comments on the foreign language manual have been made; the foreign language committee is waiting to see the new Braille Formats code book before making format revisions to the foreign language manual. Publications committee will advise on this matter after the upcoming Formats Committee meeting.

In order to respond to the board's suggestion that the Mathematics Committee consider endorsing the periodic table of elements produced by the American Printing House for the Blind, the committee has asked that copies of the document be sent to them. Mary Nelle will attempt to get copies sent to the members.

MSC Diane Wormsley moved to add Diane Spence back as a member of the Early Literacy Materials Production committee. The motion passed unanimously.

The refreshable braille committee is working in response to the charge given at the fall 2010 meeting, and these efforts will be discussed more fully in the spring committee report.

Press Release

MSC Diane Wormsley moved the approval of the press release on NUBS with the adjustments made during this conference call. The motion passed unanimously.

Strategic Planning--Diane Wormsley and Mary Nelle McLennan

A revised version of the four strategic imperatives was sent to the board. The board is asked to look over the imperatives to ensure that they are correct.
The Strategic Planning Implementation Team has been working with Outreach and Education and with the communication task force.

BANA Spring Meeting

The Open Forum will take place on Thursday at the hotel. The meeting ends at noon on Sunday.

New Business

The Publications committee is working on a process document to give committees guidelines on submitting their code books/changes.

Question: should copy editing be done before or after the review of a document? Board members are asked to send their feedback on this question to Mary Nelle.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 P.M. Eastern Time.